

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 02798 231030Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----100487 231033Z /13

O 230656Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7513
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T TEHRAN 02798

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECTING HEADING -ADDING ADDRESSEE)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR ME LE IR IZ
SUBJ: ME STAFF GROUP - SOUTH LEBANON: PROBLEMS WITH ARAB
BROTHERS

REF: BEIRUT 1540

1. I NOTE BOUTROS HAS SUGGESTED IRANIANS PUT PRESSURE ON IRAQ
NOT TO SEND REINFORCEMENTS TO PLO FORCES IN SOUTH LEBANON. AS
AMBASSADOR PARKER HAS ALREADY INDICATED, IT IS MOST DOUBTFUL
THAT IRAN HAS THAT KIND OF INFLUENCE WITH IRAQ; AND, IN THE
ABSENCE OF SUCH INFLUENCE, I FEEL THE IRANIANS WOULD DECLINE TO
APPROACH BAGHDAD. MOREOVER, I AM CERTAIN THEY WOULD RESENT ANY

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SUGGESTION ON OUR PART THAT THEY TAKE AN INITIATIVE WITH
IRAQ.

2. SINCE LEBANON IS ACTIVELY AND CAPABLY REPRESENTED
HERE AND SINCE THE GOVERNMENT IN BEIRUT DOES NOT HESITATE
TO APPROACH THE IRANIANS ON MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE, I ASSUME
BOUTROS WILL MAKE HIS SUGGESTION DIRECTLY THROUGH HIS OWN

EMBASSY IF HE FEELS IT HAS MERIT. I ALSO ASSUME THAT
IRANIANS, WHOSE PEACEKEEPING FORCES ARE MANNING THE CROSSING
POINTS ON THE LITANI RIVER, ARE NOT THEMSELVES WITHOUT CONCERN
ABOUT THE IRAQI REINFORCEMENTS.

3. ON BALANCE, IT WOULD SEEM THAT FRANCE WOULD BE THE BEST
INTERLOCUTOR WITH IRAQ. FRENCH PEACEKEEPERS WILL ALSO
SOON BE IN SOUTH LEBANON AND FRANCE HAS RECENTLY MANAGED TO
ESTABLISH RATHER CLOSE RELATIONS WITH IRAQ. THIS COMBINATION
OF CIRCUMSTANCES MIGHT MAKE PARIS WILLING TO BELL THE CAT.
SULLIVAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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